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Supplemental Material

Persistent Organic Pollutants Modify Gut Microbiota–Host Metabolic Homeostasis in Mice Through Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor Activation

Limin Zhang, Robert G. Nichols, Jared Correll, Iain A. Murray, Naoki Tanaka, Philip Smith, Troy D. Hubbard, Aswathy Sebastian, Istvan Albert, Emmanuel Hatzakis, Frank J. Gonzalez, Gary H. Perdew, and Andrew D. Patterson

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Materials and Methods

NMR-based metabolomics experiment

Sample preparation

Methanol, K_2HPO_4 , NaH_2PO_4 (all in analytical grade), Sodium 3-trimethylsilyl [2,2,3,3-d₄] propionate (TSP-d₄) and D₂O (99.9% in D) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO). Phosphate buffer (0.1 M K_2HPO_4/NaH_2PO_4 and PH 7.4) was prepared with K_2HPO_4 and NaH_2PO_4 for their good solubility and low-temperature stability. Liver and intestinal tissues (~50 mg) were extracted three times with 600 μ L of precooled methanol-water mixture (2/1, v/v) using the PreCellys Tissue Homogenizer (Bertin Technologies, Rockville, MD). After centrifugation at 11180 x g for 10 min at 4 °C, the combined supernatants were dried. Each of the aqueous extracts was separately reconstituted into 600 μ L phosphate buffer containing 50% D₂O and 0.005% TSP-d₄ (chemical shift reference). Following centrifugation, 550 μ L of each extract was transferred into 5 mm NMR tube. Fecal and cecal content samples were directly extracted. Briefly, samples (~50 mg) were mixed with 600 μ L precooled phosphate buffer, vortexed for 30s and subjected to three consecutive freeze-thaws followed by homogenization using the Precellys Tissue Homogenizer. After centrifugation (11,180 x g, 4 °C) for 10 min, the supernatants (550 μ L) were transferred into 5 mm NMR tubes for NMR analysis.

¹H NMR Spectroscopy

¹H NMR spectra of aqueous liver and fecal extracts were recorded at 298 K on a Bruker Avance III 600 MHz spectrometer (operating at 600.08 MHz for ¹H) equipped with a Bruker inverse cryogenic probe (Bruker Biospin, Germany). Typical one-dimensional NMR spectrum was acquired for each of all samples employing the first increment of NOESY pulse sequence (NOESYPR1D). To suppress the water signal, a weak continuous wave irradiation was applied

to the water peak during recycle delay (2 s) and mixing time (100 ms). The 90° pulse length was adjusted to approximately 10 μ s for each sample and 64 transients were collected into 32 k data points for each spectrum with spectral width of 20 ppm. To facilitate NMR signal assignments, a range of 2D NMR spectra were acquired and processed for selected samples including ^1H - ^1H correlation spectroscopy (COSY), ^1H - ^1H total correlation spectroscopy (TOCSY), ^1H - ^{13}C heteronuclear single quantum correlation (HSQC), and ^1H - ^{13}C heteronuclear multiple bond correlation spectra (HMBC).

Spectral data processing and multivariate data analysis

All free induction decays (FID) were multiplied by an exponential function with a 1 Hz line broadening factor prior to Fourier transformation. ^1H NMR spectra were corrected manually for phase and baseline distortions and spectral region δ 0.5-9.5 was integrated into regions with equal width of 0.004 ppm (2.4 Hz) using AMIX software package (V3.8, Bruker-Biospin, Germany). Region δ 4.45-5.20 was discarded by imperfect water saturation. Regions δ 1.15-1.23 and δ 3.62-3.69 were also removed for ethanol contaminations in the cecal contents during mice dissection process. Each bucketed region was then normalized to the total sum of the spectral integrals to compensate for the overall concentration differences prior to statistical data analysis.

Multivariate data analysis was carried out with SIMCAP+ software (version 13.0, Umetrics, Sweden). Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was initially carried out on the NMR data to generate an overview and to assess data quality. Orthogonal Projection to Latent Structures with Discriminant Analysis (OPLS-DA) was subsequently conducted on the NMR data. The OPLS-DA models were validated using a 7-fold cross validation method and the quality of the model was described by the parameters $R^2\text{X}$ and Q^2 values (Figure 5 and Supplemental Material Table S3). To facilitate interpretation of the results, back-transformation

of the loadings generated from the OPLS-DA was performed prior to generating the loadings plots, which were color-coded with the Pearson linear correlation coefficients of variables (or metabolites) using an in-house developed script for MATLAB (The Mathworks Inc.; Natwick, MA). The color-coded correlation coefficient indicates the significance of the metabolite contribution to the class separation, with a “hot” color (e.g., red) being more significant than a “cold” color (e.g., blue). In this study, a cutoff value of $|r| > 0.707$ ($r > 0.707$ and $r < -0.707$) was chosen for correlation coefficient as significant based on the discrimination significance ($p \leq 0.05$).

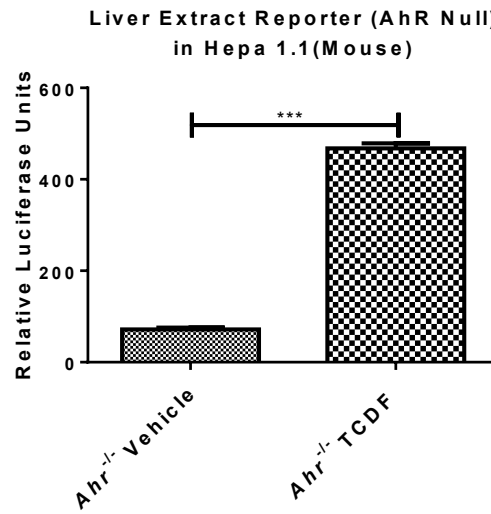


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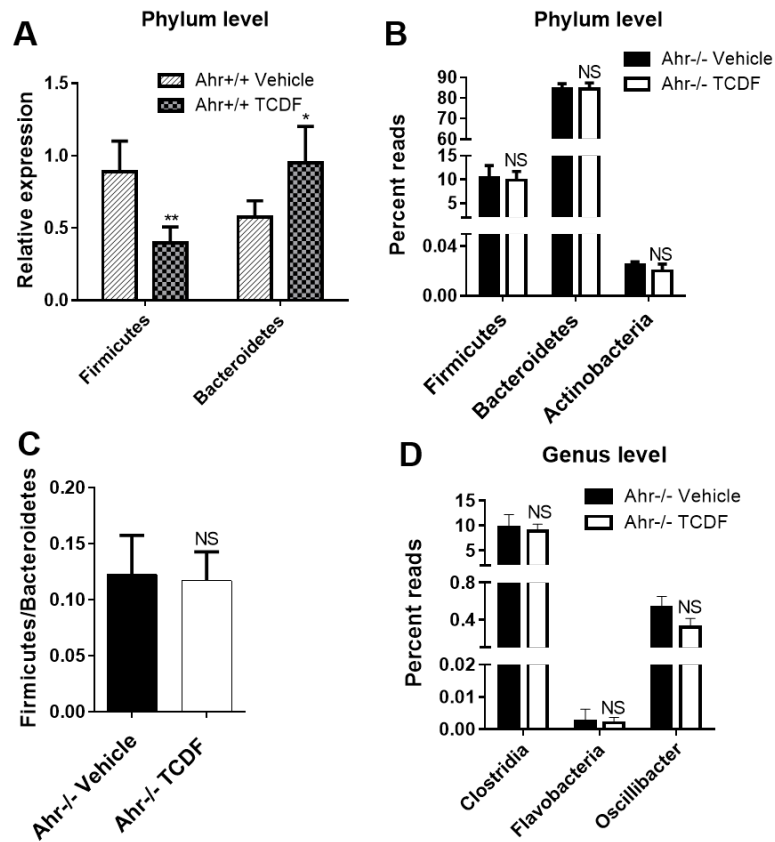


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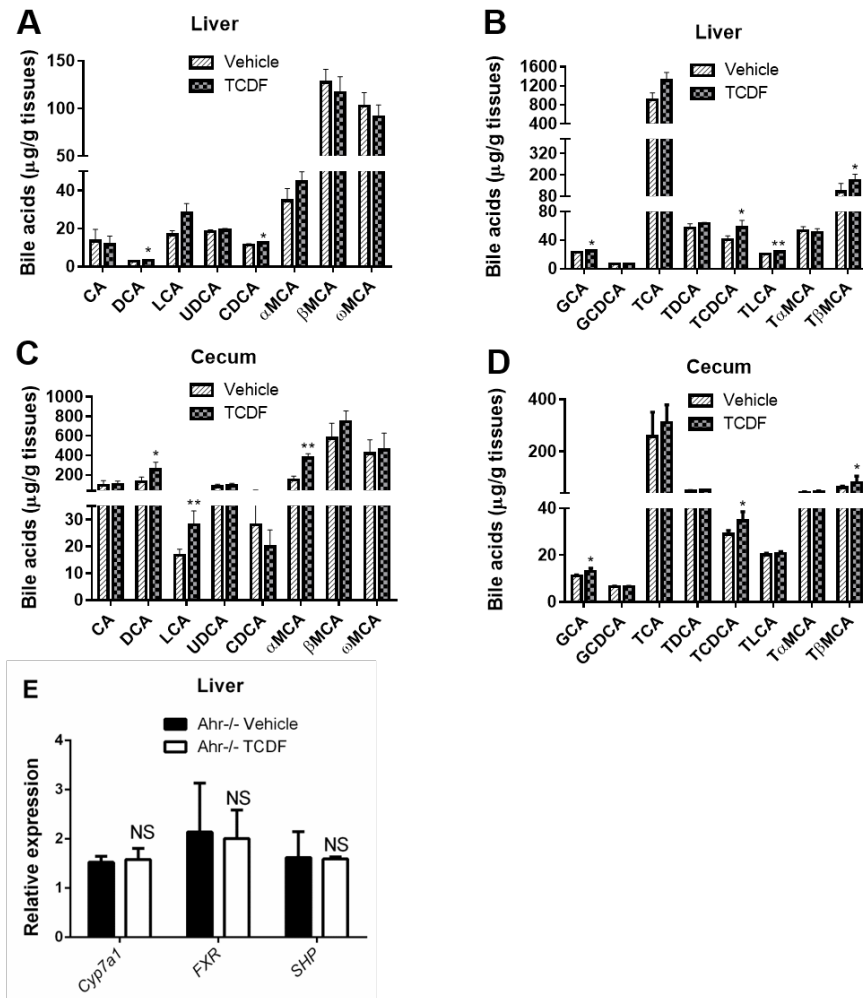


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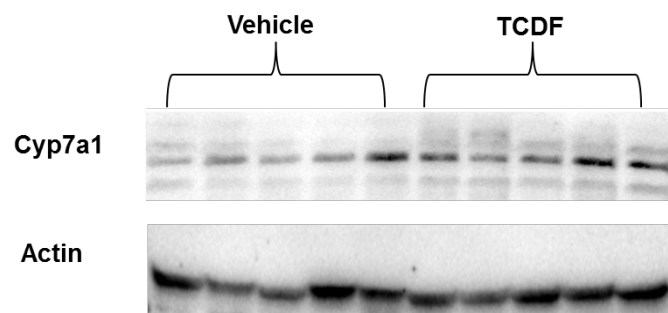
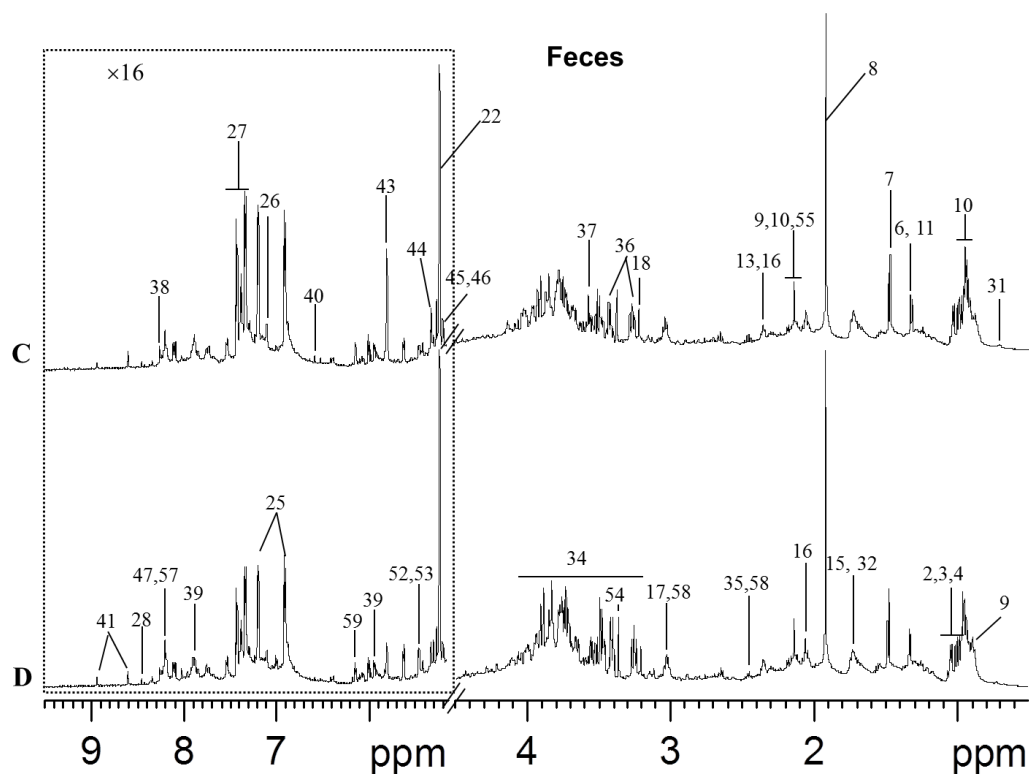
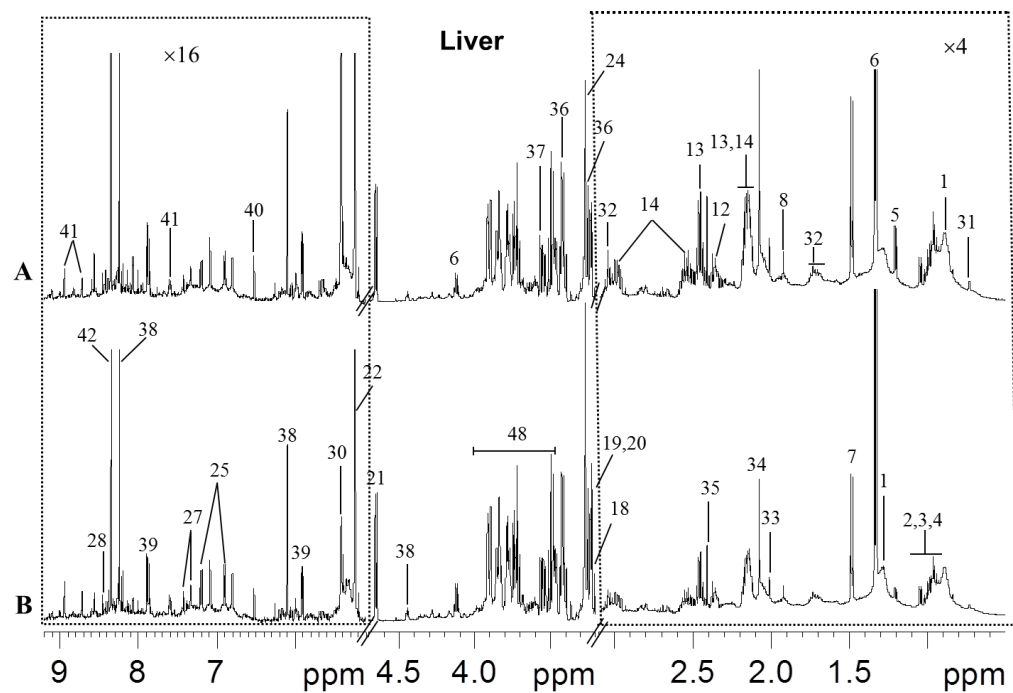


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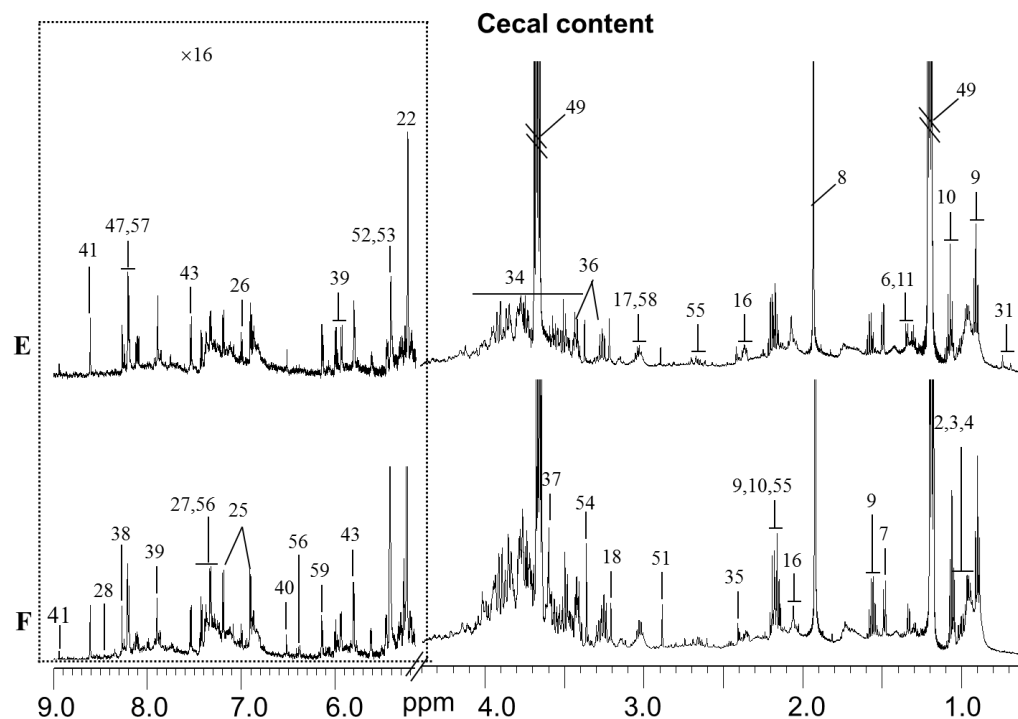
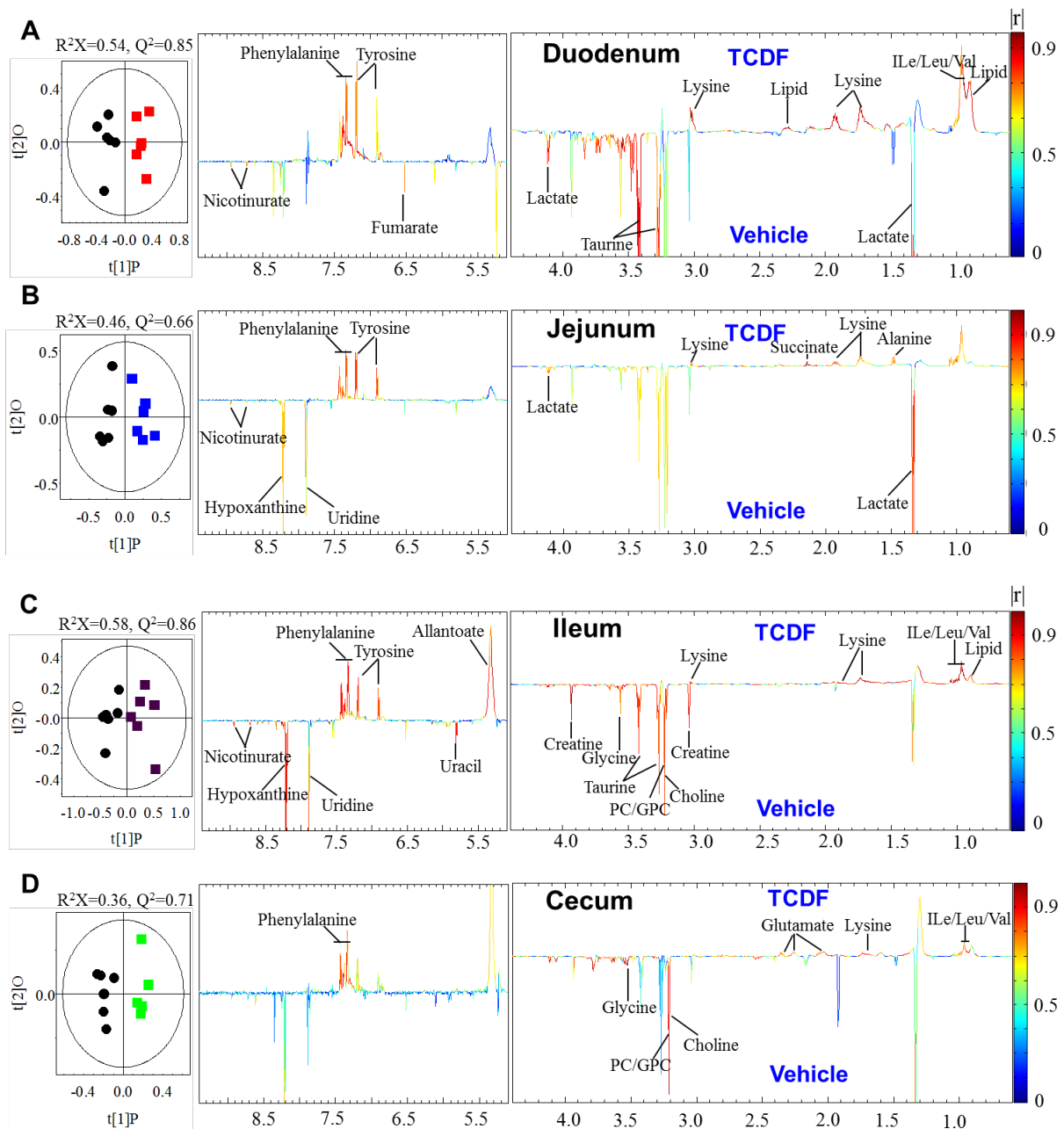


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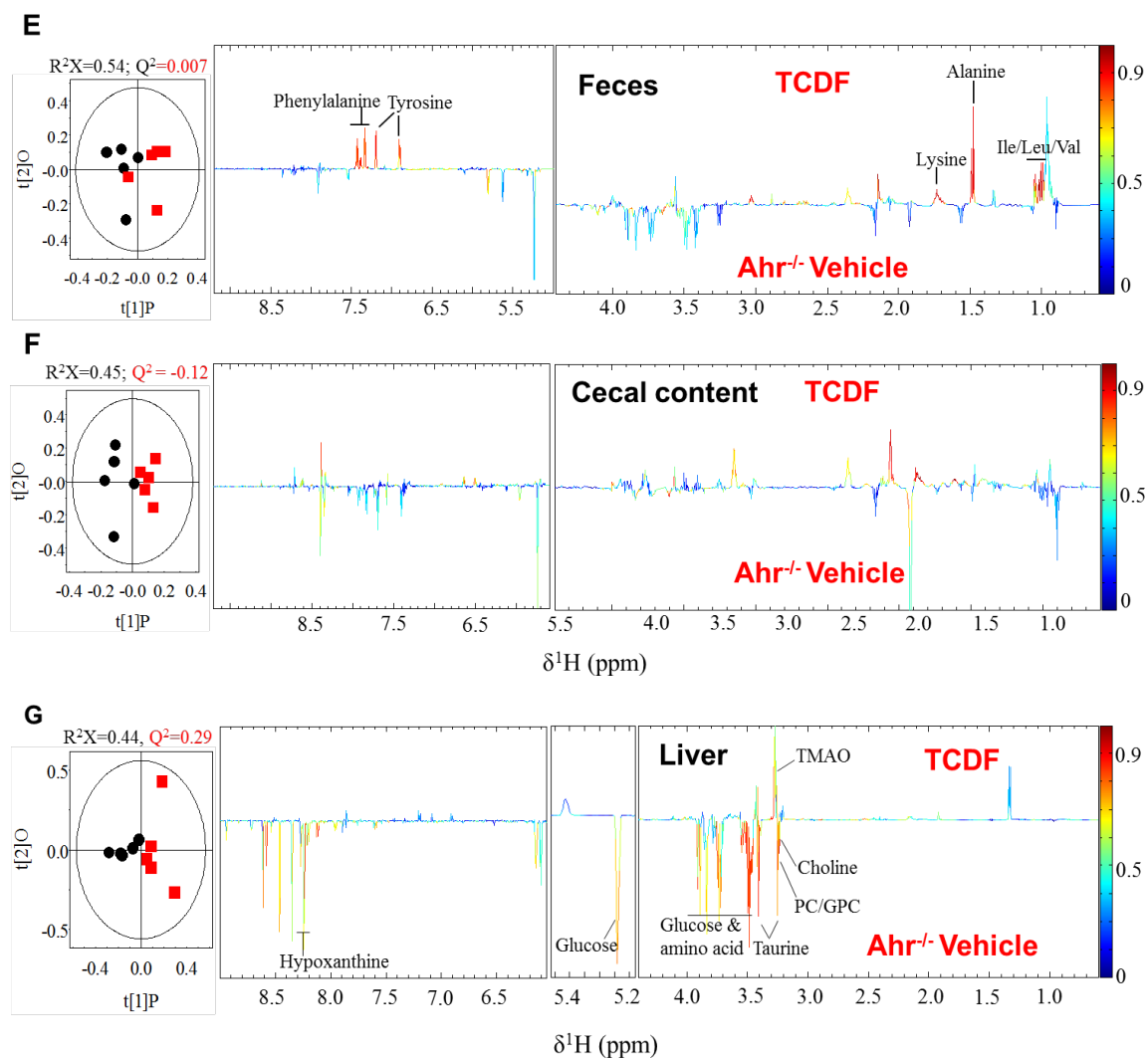


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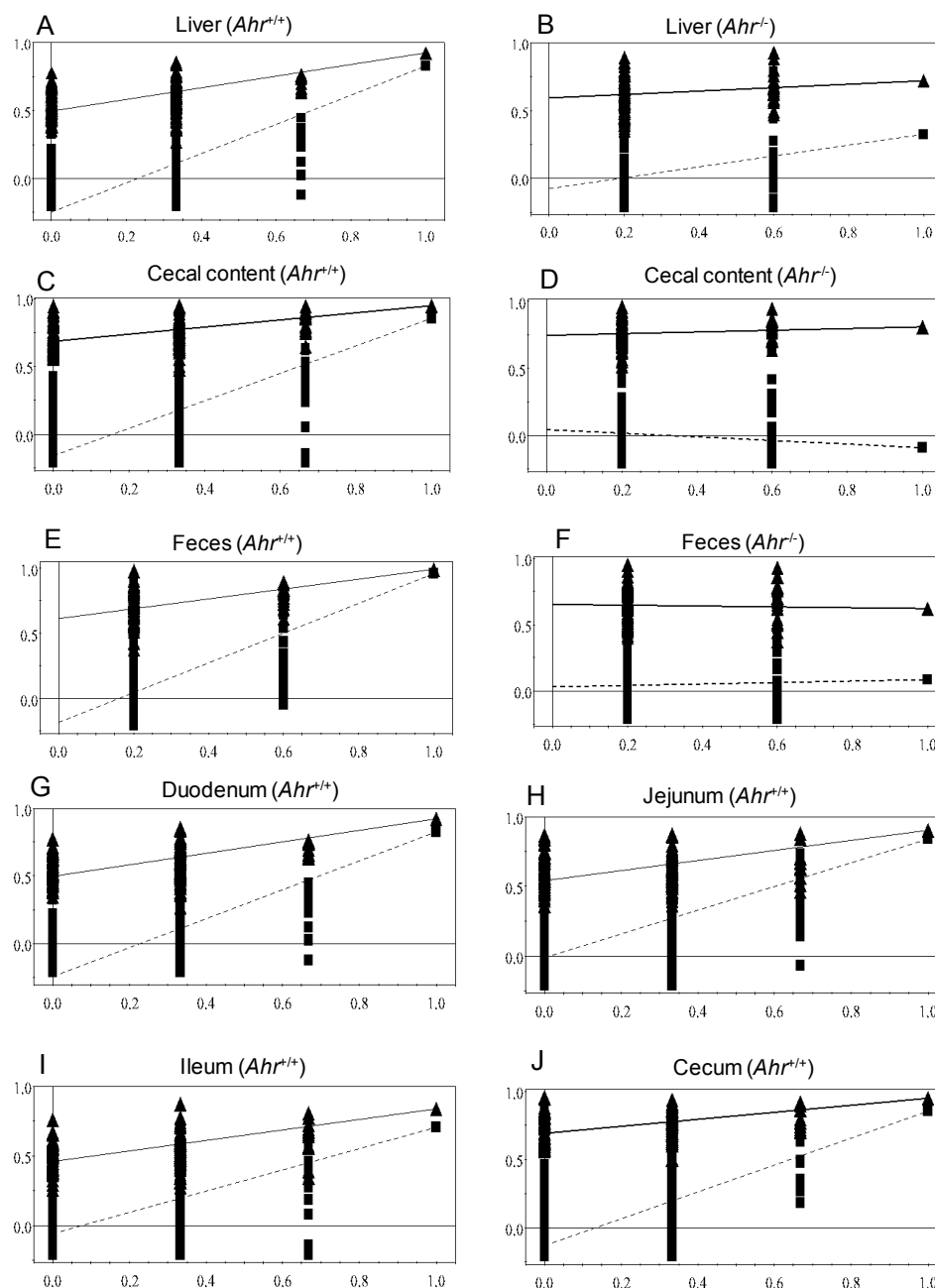


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2D ^1H - ^1H TOCSY NMR

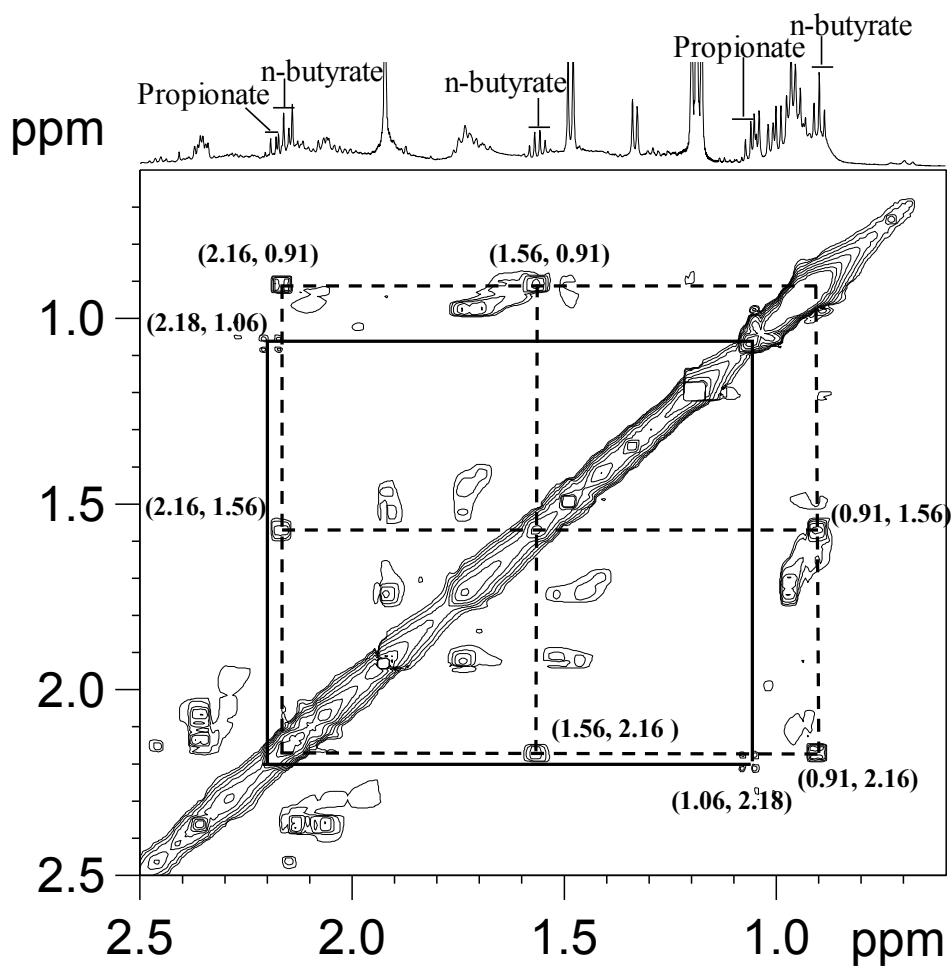


Figure S8. Two dimensional (2D) ^1H - ^1H total correlation spectroscopy (TOCSY) for the identification of n-butyrate and propionate related to Figure 5A and B. The cross peaks of n-butyrate and propionate are highlighted with dotted and solid lines, respectively.

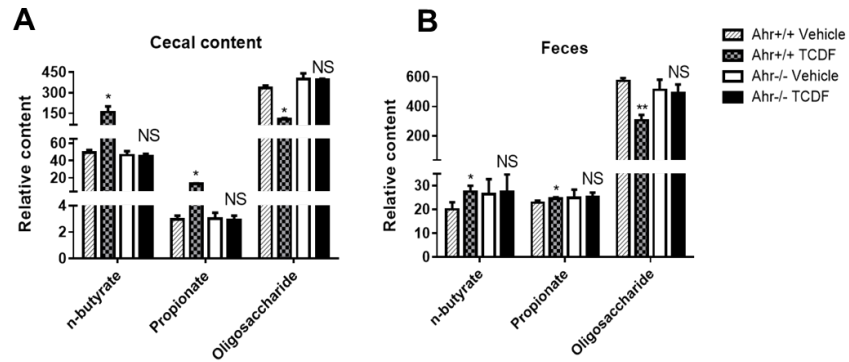


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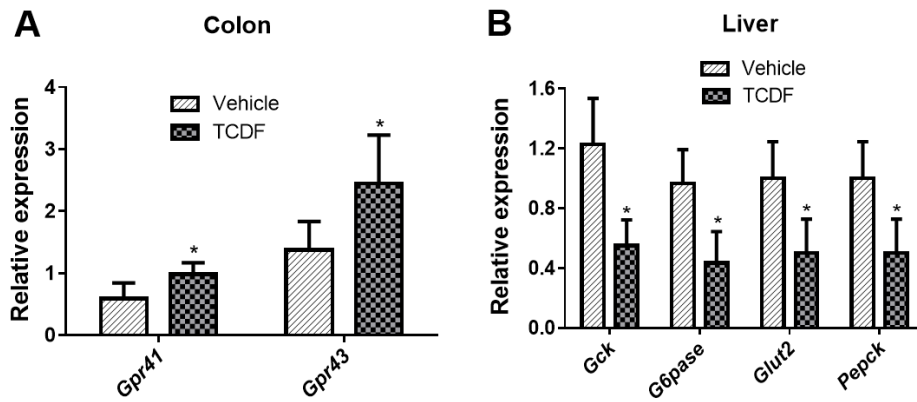


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Table S1. Primer sequences for qRT-PCR, Related to the Experimental Procedures.

Gene	Abbreviation	Sequence
Cytochrome P450, family 1, subfamily A, polypeptide 1	<i>Cyp1a1</i>	AGAATACGGTGACAGCCAGG TTTGGGAGGAAGTGGAAGG
Cytochrome P450, family 1, subfamily A, polypeptide 2	<i>Cyp1a2</i>	AAAGGGGTCTTTCCACTGCT AGGGACACCTCACTGAATGG
Cytochrome P450, family 2, subfamily E, polypeptide 1	<i>Cyp2e1</i>	CTTAGGGAAAACCTCCGCAC GGGACATTCTGTGTTCCAG
Cytochrome P450, family 2, subfamily A, polypeptide 1	<i>Cyp2a1</i>	CCCAGCAAAGAAGAGGTTCA CCTTTCTCATCCACATGCAA
Aldo-keto reductase family 1 member D1	<i>Akr1d1</i>	TGCACACCACCAATATCCCT CTTCACTGCCACATAGGTCTTC
Bile acid-CoA synthetase	<i>Bacs</i>	ACCCTGGATCAGCTCCTGGAT GTTCTCAGCTAGCAGCTTGG
Bile acid-CoA: amino acid <i>N</i> -acyltransferase	<i>Bat</i>	GGAAACCTGTTAGTTCTCAGGC GTGGACCCCATATAGTCTCC
Bile salt export pump (Abcb11)	<i>Bsep</i>	CTGCCAAGGATGCTAATGCA CGATGGCTACCCTTTGCTTCT
Cysteine dioxygenase	<i>Cdo</i>	GGGGACGAAGTCAACGTGG ACCCAGCACAGAATCATCAG
Cysteine sulfinic decarboxylase	<i>Csd</i>	CCAGGACGTGTTTGGGATTGT ACCAGTCTTGACACTGTAGTGA
Cytochrome P450, family 7, subfamily A, polypeptide 1 (Cholesterol 7 α -hydroxylase)	<i>Cyp7a1</i>	AGCAACTAAACAACCTGCCAGT ACTAGTCCGGATATTCAAGGATGCA
Cytochrome P450, family 7, subfamily B, polypeptide 1 (Oxysterol 7 α -hydroxylase)	<i>Cyp7b1</i>	TAGCCCTCTTTCCTCCACTCATA GAACCGATCGAACCTAAATTCCT
Cytochrome P450, family 8, subfamily B, polypeptide 1 (Sterol 12 α -hydroxylase)	<i>Cyp8b1</i>	GGCTGGCTTCCTGAGCTTATT ACTTCCTGAACAGCTCATCGG
Cytochrome P450, family 27, subfamily A, polypeptide 1 (Sterol 27-hydroxylase)	<i>Cyp27a1</i>	GCCTCACCTATGGGATCTTCA TCAAAGCCTGACGCAGATG
Fibroblast growth factor 15	<i>Fgf15</i>	ACGTCCTTGATGGCAATCG GAGGACCAAACGAACGAAAT T
Short heterodimer partner	<i>Shp</i>	CGATCCTCTTCAACCCAGATG AGGGCTCCAAGACTTCACACA
Farnesoid X receptor	<i>Fxr</i>	TCCAGGGTTTCAGACACTGG GCCGAACGAAGAAACATGG
Myosin Vb	<i>Myosin Vb</i>	CCCCTTCTTTGTAGTCCTTGG CGTACAGCGAGCTCTACACC
Protein Tyrosine Phosphatase, Receptor Type, H	<i>PTPRH</i>	GGTAAAAGTGGGTAGGAAATGGC GTGGCTGTGTAGGACTGAGC
Lipocalin-2	<i>Lcn-2</i>	ATTTCCCAGAGTGAACCTGGC AATGTCACCTCCATCCTGGT
Segmented filamentous bacteria	<i>SFB</i>	GACGCTGAGGCATGAGAGCAT GACGGCACGGATTGTTATTCA
Hepatic nuclear factor 4 α 1	<i>Hnf4a1</i>	AAATGTGCAGGTGTTGACCA CACGCTCCTCCTGAAGAATC
Ileal bile acid-binding protein	<i>lbabp</i>	CAGGAGACGTGATTGAAAGGG GCCCCAGAGTAAGACTGGG
Ileal bile acid transporter	<i>ibat</i>	ACCACTTGCTCCACACTGCTT CGTTCCTGAGTCAACCCACAT

Gene	Abbreviation	Sequence
Multidrug resistance-associated protein (Abcc2)	<i>Mrp2</i>	GGATGGTGACTGTGGGCTGAT GGCTGTTCTCCCTTCTCATGG
Multidrug resistance-associated protein (Abcc3)	<i>Mrp3</i>	TCCCACTTTTCGGAGACAGTAAC ACTGAGGACCTTGAAGTCTTGGA
Na ⁺ /taurocholate cotransporter	<i>Ntcp</i>	ATGACCACCTGCTCCAGCTT GCCTTTGTAGGGCACCTTGT
Organic anion transporting protein 1	<i>Oatp1</i>	CAGTCTTACGAGTGTGCTCCAGAT ATGAGGAATACTGCCTCTGAAGTG
Organic solute transporter α	<i>Osta</i>	TGTTCCAGGTGCTTGTCTATCC CCACTGTTAGCCAAGATGGAGAA
Organic solute transporter β	<i>Ostb</i>	GATGCGGCTCCTTGGAATTA GGAGGAACATGCTTGTCTATGAC
Taurine transporter	<i>Taut</i>	GCACACGGCCTGAAGATGA ATTTTTGTAGCAGAGGTACGGG
Phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase	<i>Pepck</i>	GGCCACAGCTGCTGCAG GGTCGCATGGCAAAGGG
Glucokinase	<i>Gck</i>	TAT GAA GAC CGC CAA TGT GA TTT CCG CCA ATG ATC TTT TC
Glucose-6-phosphatase	<i>G6pase</i>	CTGTGAGACCGGACCAGGA GACCATAACATAGTATACACCTGCTGC
Glucose transporter 2	<i>Glut2</i>	GTCCAGAAAGCCCCAGATACC GTGACATCCTCAGTTCCTCTTAG
Interleukin-1 beta	<i>IL-1β</i>	GGTCAAAGGTTTGAAGCAG TGTGAAATGCCACCTTTTGA
Tumor necrosis factor α	<i>TNF-α</i>	AGGCTGCCCCGACTACGT GACTTTCTCCTGGTATGAGATAGCAAA
Interleukin-10	<i>IL-10</i>	GGTTGCCAAGCCTTATCGGA ACCTGCTCCACTGCCTTGCT
Serum amyloid A 1	<i>Saa1</i>	TCATGTCAGTGTAGGCTCGC GTCTTCTGCTCCCTGCTCC
Serum amyloid A 3	<i>Saa3</i>	AGTAGGCTCGCCACATGTCT TCCATTGCCATCATTCTTTG
G protein-coupled receptors	<i>Gpr41</i>	TTCTTGACGCCACACTGCTC GCCCACCACATGGGACATAT
G protein-coupled receptors	<i>Gpr43</i>	TGGTTGGACCGTGAAGACATG TGGAACCTGTAATCCCAGCAC

Table S2. Retention times and M/Z of bile acids in UPLC-TQD-MS measurements, Related to Figure 4.

Bile acid	Retention time (min)	Multiple reaction mode
CA	7.98	407.2→343.2
DCA	8.95	391.3→391.3
CDCA	8.83	391.3→391.3
UDCA	8.06	391.3→391.3
α MCA	7.46	407.2→387.2
β MCA	7.57	407.2→371.2
ω MCA	7.38	407.2→387.2
GCA	7.38	464.3→464.3
GCDCA	8.03	448.3→448.3
TCA	6.68	514.3→124.0
LCA	9.98	375.3→375.3
TCDCA	7.11	498.5→124.3
TLCA	7.69	482.2→124.0
TDCA	6.63	498.5→124.3
T α MCA	6.22	514.2→107.0
T β MCA	6.28	514.2→107.0

Table S3. Significantly changed metabolites in the feces, cecal content, liver, and intestine of mice exposed to TCDF.

Metabolite	Feces R ² X=0.64 Q ² =0.88	Cecal content R ² X=0.48 Q ² =0.64	Liver R ² X=0.74 Q ² =0.75	Duodenum R ² X=0.59 Q ² =0.85	Jejunum R ² X=0.48 Q ² =0.65	Ileum R ² X=0.66 Q ² =0.87	Cecum R ² X=0.56 Q ² =0.73
Lipid	—	—	+0.78 ^a	+0.84	—	+0.78	—
UFA	—	—	+0.81	—	—	—	—
PUFA	—	—	+0.74	—	—	—	—
Alanine	+0.82	—	-0.83	—	+0.72	—	—
Isoleucine	+0.93	—	—	+0.81	+0.69	+0.86	+0.71
Leucine	+0.88	—	—	+0.78	+0.64	+0.83	+0.68
Valine	+0.79	—	—	+0.76	+0.64	+0.85	+0.67
Tyrosine	+0.94	+0.74	-0.73	+0.74	+0.77	+0.81	—
Phenylalanine	+0.92	+0.78	-0.72	+0.83	+0.79	+0.82	+0.84
Lysine	+0.85	—	—	+0.84	+0.71	+0.79	—
Glutamine	+0.71	—	—	—	—	—	+0.73
Glycine	—	—	-0.63	—	—	-0.72	-0.86
Glucose	-0.76	-0.79	-0.75	—	—	—	-0.63
Glycogen	—	—	+0.77	—	—	—	—
Lactate	—	—	-0.75	-0.77	-0.81	—	—
Succinate	+0.79	—	—	—	+0.84	—	—
Fumarate	—	—	—	-0.68	—	—	—
Creatine	—	—	—	—	—	-0.82	—
n-butyrate	+0.82	+0.92	—	—	—	—	—
Propionate	+0.68	+0.88	—	—	—	—	—
Taurine	—	—	—	-0.85	—	-0.84	—
Choline	-0.75	—	-0.80	—	—	-0.81	-0.82
PC/GPC	—	-0.76	-0.68	—	—	-0.85	-0.83
Inosine	—	—	-0.84	—	—	—	—
Hypoxanthine	—	—	-0.67	—	-0.65	-0.85	—
Uracil	—	—	—	—	—	-0.73	—
Uridine	—	—	—	—	-0.63	-0.66	—
Nicotinurate	—	—	-0.69	—	-0.67	-0.68	—
Allantoate	—	—	—	—	—	+0.78	—
Oligosaccharides	-0.81	-0.71	—	—	—	—	—

^aCorrelation coefficient values obtained from OPLS-DA of treatment groups.

+ and – indicate a significant increase and decrease of metabolite levels in the treatment groups compared to the control mice; — no change.

Table S4. ¹H NMR chemical shifts for metabolites assigned in liver, fecal and cecal content extracts.

Key	Metabolites	Moieties	δ ¹ H (ppm) and multiplicity ^a	Samples ^b
1	Lipid	CH ₃ , (CH ₂) _n , CH ₂ -C=C, CH ₂ -C=O, C-CH ₂ -C=, -CH=CH-	0.89(m), 1.27(m), 2.0(m), 2.3(m), 2.78(m), 5.3(m)	L
2	Isoleucine	α CH, β CH, γ CH ₃ , δ CH ₃	3.65(d), 1.95(m), 0.99(t), 1.02(d)	L, F, C
3	Leucine	α CH, β CH ₂ , γ CH ₃ , δ CH ₃	0.94(d), 3.72(t), 1.96(m), 0.91(d)	L, F, C
4	Valine	α CH, β CH, γ CH ₃	3.6(d), 2.26(m), 0.98(d), 1.04(d)	L, F, C
5	D-3-hydroxybutyrate	CH, CH ₂ , γ CH ₃ , CH ₂	4.16(dt), 2.41(dd), 1.20(d), 2.31(dd)	L
6	Lactate	α CH, β CH ₃	4.11(q), 1.32(d)	L, F, C
7	Alanine	α CH, β CH ₃	3.77(q), 1.48(d)	L, F, C
8	Acetate	CH ₃	1.91(s)	L, F, C
9	n-butyrate	CH ₃ , CH ₂ , CH ₂	0.91(t), 1.56(m), 2.16(t)	F, C
10	Propionate	CH ₃ , CH ₂	1.06(t), 2.18(q)	F, C
11	Threonine	γ CH ₃ , α CH, β CH	1.33(d), 3.59(d), 4.26(m)	F, C
12	Glutamate	α CH, β CH ₂ , γ CH ₂	2.08(m), 2.34(m), 3.75(m)	L
13	Glutamine	α CH, β CH ₂ , γ CH ₂	2.15(m), 2.44(m), 3.77(m)	L, F
14	Glutathione	CH ₂ , CH ₂ , S-CH ₂ , N-CH, CH	2.16(m), 2.55(m), 2.95(dd), 3.78(m), 4.56(q)	L
15	L-arginine	γ CH ₂ , β CH ₂ , α CH	1.72(m), 1.93(m), 3.77(m)	F
16	L-proline	CH ₂ , CH ₂ , CH	2.05(m), 2.34(m), 3.4(m)	F, C
17	Creatine	CH ₃ , CH ₂	3.03(s), 3.93(s)	F, C
18	Choline	N(CH ₃) ₃ , OCH ₂ , NCH ₂	3.2(s), 4.05(t), 3.51(t)	L, F, C
19	Phosphocholine (PC)	N(CH ₃) ₃ , OCH ₂ , NCH ₂	3.22(s), 4.21(t), 3.61(t)	L
20	Glycerophosphocholine	N(CH ₃) ₃ , OCH ₂ , NCH ₂	3.22(s), 4.32(t), 3.68(t)	L
21	β -Glucose	1-CH	4.66(d)	L
22	α -Glucose	1-CH	5.23(d)	L, F, C
23	Unsaturated fatty acid	CH=CH	2.73, 5.3	L
24	TMAO	CH ₃	3.27(s)	L
25	Tyrosine	CH, CH	6.89(dd), 7.18(dd)	L, F, C
26	Histidine	2-CH, 4-CH, CH ₂	7.75(t), 7.08(d), 6.05(d)	L, F, C
27	Phenylalanine	Ring-CH	7.40(m), 7.33(m), 7.35(m)	L, F, C
28	Formate	CH	8.45(s)	L, F, C
29	Betaine	CH ₂ , CH ₃	3.27(s), 3.93(s)	L
30	Glycogen	1-CH	5.38-5.45(m)	L
31	Bile acid	CH ₃	0.73(m)	L, F, C
32	Lysine	α CH, β CH ₂ , γ CH ₂ , δ CH ₂	3.76(t), 1.89(m), 1.72(m), 3.01(t)	L, F, C
33	N-acetyl aspartate	CH ₃	2.01(s)	L
34	Oligosaccharides	α CH resonances	3.3-3.9	F, C
35	Succinate	CH ₃	2.41(s)	L, F, C
36	Taurine	S-CH ₂ , N-CH ₂	3.26(t), 3.40(t)	L, F, C
37	Glycine	CH ₂	3.57(s)	L, F, C
38	Inosine	14-CH, 1-CH, 8-CH, 4'-CH, 5'-CH, CH ₂ (1/2), CH ₂ (1/2)	8.34(s), 6.09(d), 8.22(s), 4.76(t), 4.47(m)	L
39	Uridine	11-CH, 7-CH, 12-CH, 6-CH, 5-CH, 4-CH, CH ₂ , CH ₂	7.88(d), 5.92(d), 5.9(d), 4.36(m), 4.24(t)	L, F, C
40	Fumarate	CH	6.53(s)	L, F, C
41	Nicotinate	2-CH, 6-CH, 4-CH, 5-CH	8.93(s), 8.62(d), 8.25(d), 7.60(dd)	L, F, C

Key	Metabolites	Moieties	δ ^1H (ppm) and multiplicity ^a	Samples ^b
42	Adenosine	14-CH	8.32(s)	L, C
43	Uracil	1-CH, 2-CH	5.81(d), 7.54(d)	L, F, C
44	α -galactose	1-CH, 2-CH, 3-CH	5.28(d), 3.81(dd); 3.97(m)	F
45	α -arabinose	1-CH, 2-CH	5.21(d), 3.87(dd)	F
46	α -xylose	1-CH, 2-CH, 3-CH	5.20(d), 3.53(dd), 3.68(m)	F
47	Hypoxanthine	1-CH, 2-CH	8.20(s), 8.21(s)	F, C
48	Glucose & amino acids	α CH resonances	3.3-3.9	L
49	Ethanol	CH ₃ , CH ₂	1.18(t), 3.65(q)	C
50	Pyruvate	CH ₃	2.38(s)	F, C
51	TMA	CH ₃	2.88(s)	F, C
52	Raffinose	1-CH	5.41(d)	F, C
53	Stachyose	1-CH	5.41(d)	F, C
54	Methanol	CH ₃	3.36 (s)	F, C
55	Methionine	δ CH ₃ , β CH ₂ , γ CH ₂	2.14(s), 2.16(m), 2.65(t)	F, C
56	Urocanate	CHCOOH, CH(ring), 5CH	6.40(d), 7.31(d), 7.43(s)	F, C
57	Adenine	2CH, 6CH	8.19(s), 8.21(s)	F, C
58	α -ketoglutarate	γ CH ₂ , β CH ₂	2.45(t), 3.01(t)	F, C

^aKey: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet; dd, doublet of doublet. ^bLiver (L), fecal (F) and cecal content (C) aqueous extracts.

Table S5. Cross-validation with permutation test and CV-ANOVA for PLS-DA and OPLS-DA models from NMR spectra of fecal, cecal content, liver and intestinal extract.s

Samples	<i>Ahr</i>^{+/+} TCDF Vs <i>Ahr</i>^{+/+} Vehicle		<i>Ahr</i>^{-/-} TCDF Vs <i>Ahr</i>^{-/-} Vehicle	
	OLPS-DA CV-ANOVA	PLS-DA Permutation test	OLPS-DA CV-ANOVA	PLS-DA Permutation test
Feces	***	√	NS	×
Cecal content	*	√	NS	×
Liver	**	√	NS	×
Duodenum	***	√	—	—
Jejunum	*	√	—	—
Ileum	***	√	—	—
Cecum	**	√	—	—

*p < 0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p < 0.001, NS, no significance, √ pass, × fail, — not determined.